

Appl. No.: 09/894,883
Amdt. Dated 01/29/2007
Reply to Office Action of 10/05/2006

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 3. This sheet, which includes Fig. 3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3. Fig. 3 has been amended to designate Fig. 3 as "Prior Art".

Attachment: Replacement Sheet (1)

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated October 5, 2006. Claims 1-8 currently stand rejected. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections and has not amended claims 1-8. Applicant has amended Fig. 3, which was objected to for failing to designate Fig. 3 as "Prior Art". No new matter has been added by the amendment.

In light of the amendment and the remarks presented below, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all now-pending claims of the present application.

Drawing Objections

Fig. 3 stands objected to for failing to designate a legend such as --Prior Art--. Fig. 3 has been amended to designate Fig. 3 as "Prior Art". Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-8 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bruni et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,327,065, hereinafter "Bruni"). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Independent claims 1-6 each recite, *inter alia*, a charging device including a primary side coil and an induction core which penetrates through the primary side coil, and a portable equipment which includes a secondary side coil which allows the induction core to pass therethrough. In other words, the induction core, which is included as a part of the charging device along with the primary coil, penetrates through both the primary side coil and the secondary side coil, which is part of the portable equipment.

Bruni is directed to a hand held inductive charger which includes a primary coil assembly (20), which may be inserted into a secondary coil assembly (30). As shown in FIG. 2, the secondary coil assembly (30) is fixed within a vehicle (12). Thus, as an initial matter, Applicant respectfully notes that the secondary windings (33 and 34) of Bruni are fixed within a vehicle and not included within portable equipment as recited in independent claims 1-6.

Applicant also notes that Bruni discloses that the primary coil assembly (20), which presumably is being asserted to be analogous to the charging device of the claimed invention, does in fact include a primary winding (23) having a primary core (22) which penetrates the primary winding (23). However, the primary core (22) of the primary coil assembly (20) never penetrates the secondary windings (33 and 34) as is clearly evident from FIGS. 1 and 2 of Bruni. To the contrary, when the primary coil assembly (20) is mated with the secondary coil assembly (30), the primary winding (23) enters the gap (35) which separates the secondary windings (33 and 34) to become concentric with the secondary windings (33 and 34) and all three coils are penetrated by the secondary core (32). Accordingly, whereas the claimed invention recites that the primary winding and the induction core are each part of the charging device and that the secondary winding, which is part of a portable equipment, includes an insertion portion or opening through which the induction core penetrates, Bruni discloses a charging device (i.e., the charger (10) including the primary coil assembly (20)) that includes a core (i.e., the primary core (22)) that does not penetrate the secondary windings (33 and 34). Rather, in Bruni, quite the opposite is disclosed. In Bruni, the secondary core (32) (which notably is not included in a charging device as claimed in independent claims 1-6, but instead is the device being charged) penetrates through the primary and secondary windings and the primary core (22) (i.e., the core of the charging device) only penetrates through the primary winding (23). Accordingly, Bruni fails to teach or suggest a charging device including a primary side coil and an induction core which penetrates through the primary side coil, and a portable equipment which includes a secondary side coil which allows the induction core to pass therethrough as recited in independent claims 1-6.

Independent claims 4-6 further recite that the induction core is a hook-shaped induction core and that the portable equipment is allowed to be suspensibly attached to the induction core. FIGS. 1 and 2 of Bruni clearly show that both the primary and secondary induction cores (22 and 32) are substantially cylindrical in shape. Although both the primary and secondary induction cores (22 and 32) appear to have a trench shaped portion which is removed to permit insertion of the primary and secondary windings, respectively, the shape of the primary and secondary

induction cores (22 and 32) remains substantially cylindrical. Accordingly, Bruni fails to teach or suggest a hook-shaped induction core as recited in independent claims 4-6.

Additionally, in Bruni, the primary coil assembly (20) is attachable to the secondary coil assembly (30) via the retaining ring and groove arrangement (39) (see FIG. 1), but the secondary coil assembly (20) is fixed within the vehicle (12). Accordingly, Bruni fails to teach or suggest that the portable equipment is allowed to be suspensibly attached to the induction core as recited in independent claims 4-6.

It should be noted that if it were to be argued that the primary coil assembly (20) could be viewed as the portable equipment, then the secondary coil assembly (30) would have to correspond to the charging device of the claimed invention. However, the secondary coil assembly (30) is clearly disclosed as being part of the vehicle (12) which is in fact the recipient of the charging operation. Furthermore, there is no suspensible attachment of either the primary or secondary coil assembly to any core. Instead the primary coil assembly (20) is attachable to the secondary coil assembly (30) and not to the secondary core (32) via the retaining ring and groove arrangement (39), which is not a part of the secondary core (32).

For all the reasons stated above, the rejections of independent claims 1-6 are overcome. Claims 7 and 8 depend directly from independent claims 1 and 4, respectively, and thus include all the recitations of their respective independent claims. Therefore, the rejections of dependent claims 7 and 8 are overcome for at least the same reasons as given above for independent claims 1 and 4.

For all the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of claims 1-8 are overcome.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendment to the drawings and the remarks submitted above, it is respectfully submitted that the present claims are in condition for immediate allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present invention.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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